

In the Claims

1. (Currently amended) A polyester multifilament yarn comprising polytrimethylene terephthalate filaments such that the yarn has strength from a stress-strain curve of at least 3 cN/dtex and a Young's modulus of no more than 25 cN/dtex, wherein a minimum value of a differential Young's modulus at 3-10% extension is no more than ~~40~~ 6.6 cN/dtex, and an elastic recovery following 10% elongation is at least 90% and a CF value is 1-30.
2. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to claim 1, wherein the Young's modulus is no more than 22 cN/dtex.
3. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 1, wherein the minimum value of the differential Young's modulus at 3-10% extension is no more than 5 cN/dtex.
4. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 1, wherein the residual extension is at least 45%.
5. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 1, wherein the elastic recovery following 10% elongation is at least 95%.
6. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 1, wherein the degree of crystallinity is at least 30%.
7. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 1, wherein boiling water shrinkage is 3-15% and a maximum value of the shrinkage stress is no more than 0.3 cN/dtex and the temperature at which the maximum value of shrinkage stress is shown is at least 120°C.
8. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 7, wherein the maximum value of the shrinkage stress is 0.15 to 0.25 cN/dtex.

9. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 7, wherein the temperature at which the maximum value of shrinkage stress is shown is at least 130°C.

10. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 1, wherein the polyester yarn has a CV value of the continuous shrinkage in the yarn lengthwise direction of no more than 5%.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) The polyester yarn according to Claim 11, wherein the CF value is 5-25.

13. (Previously presented) The polyester yarn according to Claim 1, wherein the fineness of individual filaments from which the polyester yarn is composed is no more than 3 dtex.

14. (Previously presented) A woven fabric comprising the polyester yarn according to Claim 1 wherein the warp yarn and/or the weft yarn is a twisted yarn of twist coefficient 10,000 to 20,000.

15. (Currently amended) A method of producing multifilament yarn, wherein a polymer substantially comprising polytrimethylene terephthalate of intrinsic viscosity (η) at least 0.7 is melt spun and hauled-off at a spinning rate of at least 2000 m/min and, without winding up, subjected to drawing and heat-treatment using a textured roll of surface roughness 1.5S-8S, after which it is continuously subjected to a relaxation heat treatment at a relaxation factor of 6 to 20% an interlacing treatment to make its CF value 1-30 and wound up as a package.

16. (Previously presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the intrinsic viscosity of the polytrimethylene terephthalate is at least 0.8.

17. (Previously presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein melt spinning is carried out at a temperature 20-50°C higher than the melting point of the polytrimethylene terephthalate.

18. (Previously presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the polytrimethylene terephthalate is hauled-off at a spinning rate of at least 3,000 m/min.

19. (Previously presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the relaxation heat treatment is carried out at a relaxation factor of 8 to 18%.

20. (Cancelled)

21. (Previously presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the textured roll has surface roughness 3.2S-6.3S.

22. (Previously presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the drawing temperature is 10-50°C higher than the glass transition temperature of polytrimethylene terephthalate.

23. (Previously presented) The method of producing polyester yarn according to Claim 15, wherein the relaxation heat treatment is carried out at a temperature in the range 105-180°C.